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PATENT APPLICATION  
Serial No. 09/996,649  
Atty. Docket No. 2204-011944

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 1742

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

In re application of

Kenjiro ITO et al.

**ABRASION RESISTANT STEEL**

Serial No. 09/996,649

Filed November 28, 2001

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
March 6, 2002

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

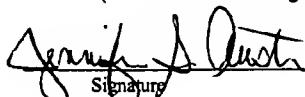
Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement, which includes a completed Form PTO-1449 and a copy of each reference cited therein.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement as it is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. However, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 6, 2002.

Jennifer S. Austen  
(Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

  
Signature 03/06/2002  
Date

No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
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